

## REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Claim 9 is objected to for informalities. Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-10 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Webb et al, US 2,313,606 ("Webb"). Claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Webb in view of Wing, US 3,504,390 ("Wing").

New claim 11 has been added.

Claims 5, 6, and 9 have been cancelled.

With regard to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b), claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of "a pair of power driven cylindrical brushes with radial extending bristles located in said chamber between said first and second sections for scrubbing exposed surfaces of the board during passage of the board through the chamber, said brushes being positioned in a plane substantially perpendicular to the board to concurrently engage opposite exposed surfaces of the board and being rotatably driven in a same direction, one of said brushes creating a first force pushing the board toward said first end of said chamber and another of said brushes creating a second force pulling the board toward said second end of said chamber so that the two forces cancel each other allowing the board to be moved by a user using a manual force to push or pull the board in either one direction or another." Nothing in Webb or any of the other cited art teaches or suggests this feature.

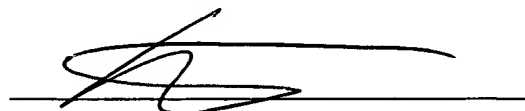
In contrast to the present invention, Webb describes a slat cleaner having paired brushes positioned in a plane substantially perpendicular to a slat and rotated in opposite directions to clean opposed surfaces of the slat. See for example, Webb, FIG. 4, and column 3, lines 47-51. As a result of rotating in opposite directions, the paired brushes described in Webb apply respective forces to the slat in the same direction instead of applying respective forces in opposite directions "so that the two forces cancel each other" as recited in amended claim 1. Consequently, Webb teaches away from the claimed feature of brushes positioned in a plane substantially perpendicular to a board and rotated in the same direction. For these reasons, Webb fails to anticipate amended claim 1 under 35 USC 102. Therefore, claim 1, and claims

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2-4, 7-8, and 10-11 depending therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the amended application in light of the above Remarks and allowance of claims 1-4, 7-8, and 10-11 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'W. David Sartor', is written over a horizontal line.

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